

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Bolivian Communist labor leaders have held several meetings recently to discuss possible ways of minimizing what they term government domination of the Central Obrera Boliviana (COB) and the Central Obrera Departamental (COD) of La Paz, and countermeasures against attacks on Communism by right-wing members of the Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR); in those labor organizations. Almost all labor leaders of the Partido Comunista de Bolivia (PCB) and the Trotskyist Partido Obrero Revolucionario (POR) have been present at these gatherings, as well as a number of left-wing members of the MNR. These meetings have been limited to discussions concerning the possible formation of a new, independent, national labor organization which would be free of government control, and although no action has been taken on the idea, representatives of almost all the labor unions not yet under government domination have indicated that they would join such a plan, if and when it becomes necessary. It appears likely that the Communists will make no further move toward establishment of a new labor organization unless and until the right-wing members of the MNR attempt to carry out their announced intentions of expelling the Communists from the COB and COD. Communist leaders do not want to chance repressive measures by the government.
2. One of the more recent discussions on this plan took place immediately after Casimiro GONZALEZ, representative of the Union Federation of Flour Workers, was expelled from the COD as a Communist agitator. At that time it was feared that the right-wing members of the MNR would move to expel all Communists from the COB and COD. The main Communist contention in their drive for additional support is that labor unity, as well as that of the Bolivian proletariat, must be above political considerations and that the right-wing leaders of the MNR are dividing the Bolivian labor movement, gradually destroying its components with their efforts to impose political control. Among the principal Communist leaders involved in these discussions are Edwin MOLLER and Guillermo LORA, for the POR; and Jose PEREYRA, Juan FARFAN, and Luis CUETO, for the PCB.

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3. Leaders of the PCB consider it impossible for the Party to oppose successfully the continued rightist trend of the MNR government. On the other hand, any open break would lead to government repression of all Communists and their sympathizers and would only serve to make their task more difficult. Moreover, they fear the loss of recently acquired social benefits. For the present, the Communist plan is to refrain from official or public declarations and to concentrate on the circulation of written propaganda material explaining the Communist stand on the various issues. Two such mimeographed pamphlets are already being circulated: one pertaining to wages and salaries; and the other to the Frente de Liberacion Nacional, a leftist political front which the Communists have attempted to promote in Bolivia.

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